

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An electronic couponing method comprising the steps of: wirelessly transferring by pushing coupon information including a coupon identification (ID) number to a first portable terminal and storing the coupon information therein, said coupon information entitles the carrier of the coupon information to a discount on the purchase of goods and/or services, said pushing being performed without requiring action by the first portable terminal;

displaying a representation of the transferred coupon information on the first portable terminal;

permitting a user of the first portable terminal to initiate a coupon matching sequence in the first portable terminal that compare the stored coupon information with wireless transmissions of promotions in effect at a retail outlet when entered and if a match occurs granting discounts on goods and services or other benefits to the user;

wirelessly transferring at least part of the stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from the first portable terminal to another terminal for redemption during a transaction;

validating in the another terminal the transferred coupon information if the coupon information corresponds to any of the goods and/or services involved in the transaction; and

if the coupon information is validated, calculating the discount provided by the coupon information to the purchase of goods and/or services.

2. (Amended) An electronic couponing method comprising the steps of: wirelessly transferring by pushing coupon information including a coupon identification (ID) number to a first portable terminal and storing the coupon information therein, said coupon information entitles the carrier of the coupon information to a discount on the purchase of goods and/or services, said pushing being performed without requiring action by the first portable terminal;

displaying a representation of the transferred coupon information on the first portable terminal;

permitting a user of the first portable terminal to initiate a coupon matching sequence in the first portable terminal that compare the stored coupon information with wireless transmissions of promotions in effect at a retail outlet when entered and if a match occurs granting discounts on goods and services or other benefits to the user; and

wirelessly transferring at least part of the stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal to effect wider distribution of the coupon information so as to permit users of each of said first and second portable terminals to redeem said coupon information during different transactions.

3. (Amended) An electronic couponing system comprising:
a first portable terminal having a memory;
a first transfer unit for wirelessly transferring by pushing coupon information including a coupon identification (ID) number to said first portable terminal, said first

portable terminal storing the coupon information in said memory thereof, said coupon information entitles the carrier of the coupon information to a discount on the purchase of goods and/or services, said pushing being performed without requiring action by the first portable terminal;

a display disposed within said first portable terminal for displaying a representation of said transferred coupon information from said first portable terminal;

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means for permitting a user of the first portable terminal to initiate a coupon matching sequence in the first portable terminal that compare the stored coupon information with wireless transmissions of promotions in effect at a retail outlet when entered and if a match occurs granting discounts on goods and services or other benefits to the user; and

a second transfer unit for wirelessly transferring at least part of said stored coupon information including the coupon ID number to another terminal for redemption during a transaction,

wherein said another terminal validates transferred coupon information if the coupon information corresponds to any of the goods and/or services involved in the transaction, and if the coupon information is validated, calculates the discount provided by the coupon information to the purchase of goods and/or services.

4. (Amended) An electronic couponing system comprising:

a first portable terminal having a memory;

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a first transfer unit for wirelessly transferring by pushing coupon information including a coupon identification (ID) number to said portable terminal, said portable terminal storing the coupon information in said memory thereof, said coupon information entitles the carrier of the coupon information to a discount on the purchase of goods and/or services, said pushing being performed without requiring action by the first portable terminal;

a display disposed within said first portable terminal for displaying a representation of said transferred coupon information;

means for permitting a user of the first portable terminal to initiate a coupon matching sequence in the first portable terminal that compare the stored coupon information with wireless transmissions of promotions in effect at a retail outlet when entered and if a match occurs granting discounts on goods and services or other benefits to the user;

a second portable terminal; and

a second transfer unit for wirelessly transferring at least part of said stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from said first portable terminal to said second portable terminal to effect wider distribution of the coupon information so as to permit users of each of said first and second portable terminals to redeem said coupon information during different transactions.

Claim 5 (canceled).

6. The method of claim 1, wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal with a Bluetooth radio link.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal via the Internet.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred from the Internet to the first portable terminal via a wireless link.

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Claim 9 (canceled).

10. The method of claim 1, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to another portable terminal via a Bluetooth radio link.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to another terminal via an infrared link.

Claim 12 (canceled).

13. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable to another terminal via the Internet via a wireless link.

Claim 14 (canceled).

15. The method of claim 2, wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal with a Bluetooth radio link.

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Claim 16 (canceled).

17. The method of claim 2, wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred from the Internet to the first portable terminal via a wireless link.

18. The method of claim 2, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal via the Internet.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal via the Internet via a wireless link.

20. The method of claim 2, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal via an infrared link.

21. The method of claim 2, wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal via a Bluetooth radio link.

Sub C1 Claims 22 and 23 (canceled).

24. The system of claim 3, wherein said first transfer unit comprises a Bluetooth radio link.

Claim 25 (canceled).

26. The system of claim 25, wherein said first transfer unit further comprises a wireless link.

Claim 27 (canceled).

28. The system of claim 3, wherein said second transfer unit comprises a Bluetooth radio link.

29. The system of claim 3, wherein said second transfer unit comprises an infrared link.

Claim 30 (canceled).

31. The system of claim 30, wherein said second transfer unit further comprises a wireless link.

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Cl* Claim 32 (canceled).

33. The system of claim 4, wherein said first transfer unit comprises a Bluetooth radio link.

Claim 34 (canceled).

35. The system of claim 33, wherein said first transfer unit further comprises a wireless link.

Claim 36 (canceled).

37. The system of claim 36, wherein said second transfer unit further comprises a wireless link.

38. The system of claim 4, wherein said second transfer unit comprises an infrared link.

39. The system of claim 4, wherein said second transfer unit comprises a Bluetooth radio link.

Claim 40 (canceled).

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41. (Amended) An electronic couponing method comprising the steps of:
wirelessly transferring by pushing coupon information including a coupon identification (ID) number to a first portable terminal and storing the coupon information therein, said coupon information entitled the carrier of the coupon information to a discount on the purchase of goods and/or services, said pushing being performed without requiring action by the first portable terminal;
displaying a representation of the transferred coupon information on the first portable terminal;
permitting a user of the first portable terminal to initiate a coupon matching sequence in the first portable terminal that compare the stored coupon information with wireless transmissions of promotions in effect at a retail outlet when entered and if a match occurs granting discounts on goods and services or other benefits to the user;
wirelessly transferring at least part of the stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from the first portable terminal to another terminal for redemption during a transaction;

validating in the another terminal the transferred coupon information if the coupon information corresponds to any of the goods and/or services involved in the transaction;

if the coupon information is validated, calculating the discount provided by the coupon information to the purchase of goods and/or services; and

wirelessly transferring at least part of the stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal to effect wider distribution of the coupon information so as to permit users of each of said first and second portable terminals to redeem said coupon information during different transactions.

SWR *cu* 42. (Amended) An electronic couponing system comprising:

a first portable terminal having a memory;

a first transfer unit for wirelessly transferring by pushing coupon information including a coupon identification (ID) number to said first portable terminal, said first portable terminal storing the coupon information in said memory thereof, said coupon information entitles the carrier of the coupon information to a discount on the purchase of goods and/or services, said pushing being performed without requiring action by the first portable terminal;

a display disposed within said first portable terminal for displaying a representation of said transferred coupon information;

means for permitting a user of the first portable terminal to initiate a coupon matching sequence in the first portable terminal that compare the stored coupon

information with wireless transmissions of promotions in effect at a retail outlet when entered and if a match occurs granting discounts on goods and services or other benefits to the user;

a second transfer unit for wirelessly transferring at least part of said stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from said first portable terminal to another terminal for redemption during a transaction,

wherein said another terminal validates the transferred coupon information if the coupon information corresponds to any of the goods and/or services involved in the transaction, and if the coupon information is validated, calculating the discount provided by the coupon information to the purchase of goods and/or services;

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a third transfer unit for transferring at least part said stored coupon information including the coupon ID number from said first portable terminal to said second portable terminal to effect wider distribution of the coupon information so as to permit users of each of said first and second portable terminals to redeem said coupon information during different transactions.

Claims 43-58 (canceled.)